



**CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT
DRAFT**

DE MINIMIS IMPACT FINDING

For

Modification of a Part B Permit Closure Plan
Former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook
Fallbrook, San Diego County, California

Project Title: Former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility

State Clearinghouse Number:

Contact Person and Telephone Number:

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Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach,
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Seal Beach, California 80740-5000
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Project Location:

Former Palm Enterprises Hazardous Waste Treatment Facility
Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook
700 Ammunition Road
Fallbrook, California 92002-3187

Section: 26
Township: 9 South
Range: 4 West
San Diego County

Project Description:

Naval Weapons Station, Seal Beach, Detachment Fallbrook (NWSSBDF) is requesting approval of a Closure Certification Report (CCR) from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). This CCR provides information to verify that NWSSBDF successfully decontaminated and closed the former Palm Enterprises hazardous waste treatment facility located on the base. NWSSBDF is also requesting DTSC approval of a Closure Plan (CP) that contained procedures used to decontaminate and close this facility. This CP was prepared and submitted following guidelines contained in California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22, Section 66264.112. This Initial Study examines the potential impacts associated with closure activities and verification procedures.

Closure activities conducted by NWSSBDF following guidelines contained under CCR, Title 22, Section 66264.112 included:

- Decontamination and off-site transport of equipment, units, and concrete containment berms and pads;
- Decontamination and off-site transport of metal components;
- Consolidation and off-site transport of rinsate and oily wastes;
- Off-site transport of dried napalm chips, soil mixed with napalm chips, and metal components plugged with napalm (mainly pipes, valves, and inaccessible equipment, such as the extruder and condenser materials contaminated with napalm residue);
- Excavation and off-site transport of contaminated soils;
- Removal, decontamination, and off-site transport of underground storage tanks;
- Backfill and compaction of excavated areas with soil obtained from on-site and off-site sources;
- Waste characterization of rinsate, concrete, and soil; and
- Sampling of soils to verify that closure activities met closure performance standards.

Findings of Significant Effect on Environment:

No significant effects resulted from this project. (The Special Initial Study supporting this finding is attached)

Mitigation Measures:

Mitigation measures were employed during the project activities as fully described in the Special Initial Study. A biologist was present each day during site clean-up/closure activities to ensure that the surrounding wildlife was not disturbed. The project is now complete, and no further measures are necessary. The site is under consideration for certification as a clean closed facility.

Initial Study Information:

DTSC conducted a Special Initial Study and determined that this project did not degrade any air resources which individually or cumulatively would have resulted in a loss of biological diversity among plants and animals residing in the air. The Special Initial Study indicated that the project would not result in changes to riparian land, rivers, streams, watercourses and wetlands under state and federal jurisdiction nor would this project result in changes to any water resources which will individually or cumulatively result in loss of biological diversity among the plants and animals residing in that water.

The Special Initial Study revealed that there were no adverse effects on native and non-native plant life, nor to rare and unique plant life and ecological communities dependent on plant life. There also were no adverse effects to listed, threatened and endangered plants or animals nor to habitat in which listed, threatened and endangered plants and animals are believed to reside. The Special Initial Study found that there were no effects on species of plants or animals listed as protected or identified for special management in the Fish and Game Code, the Public Resources Code, the Water Code, or regulations adopted thereunder and there would be no effects on marine and terrestrial plant or animal species subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Game and the ecological communities in which they reside.

Declaration of No Evidence of Potential Adverse Effects:

By Virtue of the fact of having conducted the Special Initial Study, DTSC declares that there is no possibility of any adverse effects to biological diversity among plants or animals. In addition, there were no adverse effects to native and non native plant life, to rare and unique plant life and ecological communities dependent on plant life and there were no adverse effects on species of animals or plants which are listed, threatened or endangered nor to the habitat on which these species are dependent.

DTSC declares that there were no adverse effects on species of plants or animals listed as protected or identified for special management in the Fish and Game Code, the Public Resources Code, the Water Code, or regulations adopted thereunder and there were no effects on marine and terrestrial plant or animal species subject to the jurisdiction of the Department of Fish and Game and the ecological communities in which they reside.

Declaration of Rebutment of Presumption:

DTSC has, on the basis of substantial evidence, rebutted the presumption of adverse effect as defined in Section 753.5(d), Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

Certification:

DTSC certifies that it, as Lead Agency, has made the above findings of fact and that based upon the Initial Study and upon the record, that the project will not individually or cumulatively have an adverse effect on wildlife resources, as defined in Section 711.2 of the California Fish and Game Code.

Jose Kou, Chief
Southern California Permitting Branch
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(818) 551-2920

Date